

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 10, 2009 – 3:30 P.M.

Present: Chairman Wormuth; Supervisors Barrett, Connelly, Grattidge, Jenkins, and Rowland; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Jim Murphy, District Attorney; Dan Butler, Animal Shelter; Ed Tremblay, Paul Lent, Emergency Services; Mark Rider, County Attorney; Britta Degenshein, Motorola; League Of Women Voters; Press.

Chairman Wormuth called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Rowland, seconded by Mr. Grattidge the minutes of the February 11, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Tremblay distributed a copy of the monthly Fire Services Report to all committee members for their review.

Mr. Tremblay said there were two fire training courses offered this month: Introduction to Fire Officer course and Principle of Building Construction.

There were two structure fires this month: one in the town of Clifton Park, and one in the Town of Stillwater.

Mr. Tremblay said prior to 2005, in order to operate fire apparatus, firefighters were exempt from having to have a CDL License. In 2005 the law was changed by the state because there was fear that highway funding would be lost. When it was determined that highway funding would not be lost, they failed to change the law. Currently, as the law is written, firefighters are required to have a CDL license in order to operate emergency vehicles from a scene. There is a proposed bill in both the Assembly and Senate to change this law.

Mr. Grattidge asked Mr. Tremblay to gather more information for the committee to review, so they could add committee support of Assembly Bill 05952 and Senate Bill 1624A to the Legislative program when meeting with Legislators in Albany.

A motion was made by Mr. Grattidge, seconded by Mr. Connors to move forward committee support for Assembly bill 05952 and Senate Bill 1624A to the Legislative and Research Committee to be included in the Legislative Program when meeting with Legislators in Albany. Unanimous.

Mr. Tremblay estimated that approximately 10% to 15% of the qualified drivers have CDL licenses.

Mr. Butler distributed copies of the monthly Animal Shelter Report and gave the following overview:

There were 189 animals received at the shelter for the month of February, which was an increase of 14 animals compared to February of 2008. There were 125 adopted animals for the month, and 18 animals were euthanised. Four animals were sent to the rabies lab with one raccoon testing positive from the Town of Saratoga.

Mr. Grattidge requested an update on the new Animal Shelter. Mr. Butler said a construction manager was chosen at the last Buildings and Grounds Committee. CT Male is currently working on the actual site design.

Mr. Murphy requested a resolution to approve April 26th through May 3rd, 2009 as Crime Victims Rights Week. He stated this is the 25th Anniversary of Crime Victims Rights Week

A motion was made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Grattidge to approve a resolution proclaiming April 26 through May 3, 2009 as Crime Victims Rights Week. Unanimous.

Mr. Murphy requested a resolution to accept a \$99,100 Legislative grant. The grant is separated into three parts as follows: \$44,000 legislative grant to accept money to be paid for a new computer network, furniture, and general maintenance on the District Attorney's office; \$5,000 legislative grant for a software program for computer upgrades; \$50,000 legislative grant for communications equipment, office equipment and training.

A motion was made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Rowland to approve a resolution to accept a legislative grant in the amount of \$99,100 for the District Attorney's office. Unanimous.

Mr. Lent distributed an outline of the monthly report from the Office of Emergency Services and gave the following overview:

Mr. Lent requested a resolution to award a contract to Glen Martin Towers in the amount of \$41,577.50 for the monopole tower on Fraker Mountain in the Town of Edinburg. Six RFP's were sent out with three bids received:

1. \$41,577.50 - Glen Martin towers
2. \$54,114 - Saber Communications
3. \$55,819 - Fort Worth Towers

Bids were originally sent out in November 2008. All bids were rejected at that time. A second bid specification was re-issued in December and bids that were received the second time represented a savings of \$14,000 over the November bids.

Road construction at Fraker Mountain has been completed, as well as the required geo-technical investigations required for the foundation design of the tower. It is anticipated

that the bids will be released by the end of this month for the completion of the site. National Grid has reviewed the road access and found it acceptable for the construction of the overhead power lines.

Mr. Lent said he has just been informed that there will be no need to negotiate an easement with the adjacent landowner because during construction the tower was able to be moved a few feet within the APA allowances and no longer has to go to a second landowner.

A motion was made by Mr. Connelly, seconded by Mr. Barrett to approve a resolution to accept a bid from Glen Martin Towers in the amount of \$41,577.50 for the installation of a monopole tower on Fraker Mountain in the Town of Edinburg. Unanimous.

Mr. Lent said he attended a meeting at Mt. McGregor Correctional Facility this week to finalize the construction plans for this site. The State has allowed the county to use their electricity, which will save the county money. The permit calls for consideration for the Department of Corrections to allow the county to build the tower on their property with the stipulation that the county will do the following:

- Provide space on the tower and in the shelter for this site's radio equipment
- The county will pay the Department of Corrections a sum of \$2,500 for electrical service.

Mr. Lent said he will be ordering the first pagers this week. The pagers will be distributed regionally, beginning in the northern towns.

Mr. Lent said the main recipient of disaster relief would be the Shenendehowa School district as they sustained approximately \$80,000 worth of destruction during the December ice storm, which was not covered under the previous declaration.

On a motion made by Mr. Rowland, seconded by Mr. Barrett the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session for the purpose of Litigation. Unanimous.

On a motion made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Connelly the meeting was opened to regular session. Unanimous.

No action was taken.

On a motion made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Rowland the meeting was adjourned. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom